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## CIA Man Predicts World Rise In Underground Operations

Asserts Nations Grow Less Able to  
Make Direct Use of Military Power

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CPYRGHT

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A HIGH OFFICIAL of the predicted a world-wide increase. The clear implication was that the CIA would have its work cut out for it as an agency specially suited to serving American interests in an era of turmoil and confusion.

The prediction, made by Willard Matthias, was largely overlooked in the furor over his conclusions about the war in Viet Nam in a policy paper that came to light 10 days ago. Matthias, a member of the CIA's high-level Board of National Estimates, wrote that there was serious doubt that victory could be won in Viet Nam and foresaw at best a prolonged stalemate with a chance of a negotiated neutralist settlement. Officials have said the paper, dated last June, does not represent the views of the Johnson Administration.

MUCH OF THE REST of the paper was devoted to the thesis that nations are growing less able, as a practical matter, to make direct use of military power.

Matthias contended that the United States and the Soviet Union, anxious to avoid major nuclear war, were reluctant to bring into action their strategic weapons or even their conventional weapons, for fear a confrontation might develop into a major conflict.

Lesser powers, after first sensing an increased ability to make their weight felt in the world, likewise are inhibited, for fear of each other or of bringing the great powers into a fight, he wrote.

At the same time, Matthias observed, the situation in most of the underdeveloped world "is so disorderly that many situations are likely to develop from which the great powers will have difficulty remaining aloof or which they will have difficulty controlling if they do get involved."

"ONE CONSEQUENCE of this disorder and of the inhibitions on open involvement is likely to be an increase in clandestine activities designed to influence the Central Intelligence Agency has in undercover operations.

course of events in a desired direction or to block similar activities by other powers," he wrote.

"In many places, the situation may be so soft, the issues so undefined, and the parties so difficult to identify that outside powers will be unable to develop an acceptable rationale for intervention.

"Thus, many situations will be resolved by local leaders or groups sponsored and supported covertly from the outside. This will be an attractive course of

action, not only because of the inhibitions upon intervention, but because it will often cost so little in money and effort if an investment is made early enough to be effective."

MATTHIAS went on to predict that the United States probably would be confronted with many serious challenges to its interests in many parts of the world. He said that this country would have to live with a paradox: "that — while it disposes greater power than any nation ever had — it is greatly inhibited in the use of that power to advance or protect its interests."

The paper made the case, without stating it in so many words, that the CIA is unusually qualified to act throughout the world in behalf of the nation's vital interests, whereas the Army, Navy and Air Force are increasingly inhibited from acting.

There is considerable agreement within the Government with Matthias's contention that the war in Viet Nam is heading into a stalemate and possibly will be settled eventually by negotiations based on neutralization.

HIS POINT that outside powers find it difficult to "develop a rationale for intervention," ap-

plies particularly to Viet Nam, where a national debate appears to be developing over what the United States is doing there.

In the course of the 50-page paper, Matthias made it clear that he included Africa, the Near East and Latin America, as well as Southeast Asia, when he foresaw increasing disorder.

He said that nearly everywhere in Africa there was government weakness, ineffectiveness and corruption. He called the situation "much more clouded" than it was a year or two ago and said, "By and large, the drift seems to be toward political and social chaos . . . the area is certainly becoming increasingly vulnerable to meddling from the outside."

He predicted that the Arab states would avoid forceful action against Israel and would not interfere seriously with oil company operations, but he foresaw "a continuing and steady pressure to bring the Western powers into a more supplicant posture."

He said Latin America as a whole would "probably continue to be marked by civil disturbance, plotting and counter-plotting, political warfare and terror."